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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/573,853 | 12/11/2006 | Shin-ichi Kuroda | 288624US2PCT | 4199 |
| 22850 7590 10/22/2009 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | |
| CHAN, KAWING | | | | |
| ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER | | |
| 2837 | | | | |
| NOTIFICATION DATE | | DELIVERY MODE | | |
| 10/22/2009 | | ELECTRONIC | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/573,853

Applicant(s)

KURODA, SHIN-ICHI

Examiner

Kawing Chan

Art Unit

2837

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 March 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/08)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06/29/06 and 09/27/07

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 06/29/06 and 09/27/07 are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statements are being considered by examiner.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "display stopping information" in claim 7 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an

application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-2 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamachi (JP 2004-189358 A) in view of Spitz et al. (US 2005/0099288 A1).

In Re claim 1, Hamachi discloses an elevating machine image supervisory system (Abstract) comprising:

- A plurality of monitoring cameras (installed in each of the elevators) that are separately installed at a plurality of monitoring points, and outputs pieces of image data obtained by taking pictures of conditions of said plurality of monitoring points (Paragraphs [0010, 0050]);
- An image data accumulation device that accumulates individual pieces of image data output from said plurality of monitoring cameras in a time series manner (Paragraphs [0030-0036]); And

- An accumulated image data display device that displays image data accumulated in said image data accumulation device in response to a monitoring request (search parameter) from a user (Paragraphs [0032, 0035, 0037]);
- Wherein when said monitoring request is generated, said image data accumulation device outputs a plurality of pieces of monitoring image data corresponding to said monitoring request to said accumulated image data display device (Paragraphs [0032, 0035, 0037]); and
- Said accumulated image data display device displays, in response to a plurality of monitoring points and one piece of reproduction time information contained in said monitoring request (Paragraph [0037]), said plurality of pieces of monitoring image data on said plurality of monitoring points at said time while providing synchronization between said plurality of pieces of monitoring image data (while image from different cameras are displayed on the same screen at the same time based on the search parameter, the image data are displayed in synch with each other) (Paragraphs [0048-0051]).

Hamachi fails to disclose the monitoring request contains reproduction start date information.

However, Spitz discloses the request contains reproduction start date information (Figure 6; Paragraph [0079]).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified the teachings of Hamachi with the teachings of Spitz, since it is known in the art to utilize reproduction start date information to request image data from the storage device so that user can monitor image at specific date and time as desired.

In Re claim 2, Hamachi discloses the plurality of monitoring points contain the interior of an elevator car (surveillance camera 9 is installed in each of the elevators) (Paragraphs [0030, 0032]).

In Re claim 5, Hamachi discloses said accumulated image data display device has an operating condition supervisory screen (7a, 7b) for monitoring condition of an elevator, and said monitoring points are set on said operating condition supervisory screen (images captured by cameras installed in basket of each elevator are displayed on the screen based upon request) (Paragraphs [0048-0051]). In addition, Spitz discloses the monitoring points are set on said operating condition supervisory screen (Figures 18-19; Paragraphs [0094-0097]).

In Re claim 6, Spitz discloses said monitoring request contains refresh rate information (68, 69), and said accumulated image data display device displays said image data on the basis of said refresh rate information (Figure 6; Paragraph [0079]).

In Re claim 7, Spitz discloses said monitoring request contains display stopping information (71, 72), and when said display stopping information is set, said display device stops the displaying (Figure 6; Paragraph [0079]).

5. Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamachi (JP 2004-189358 A) in view of Spitz et al. (US 2005/0099288 A1) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Yamanouchi (JP 2003-118967 A).

In Re claim 3, Hamachi and Spitz have been discussed above, but they fail to disclose the plurality of monitoring points contain an entrance of an escalator, an exist thereof, or a location between said entrance and said exit.

However, Yamanouchi discloses the plurality of monitoring points contain an entrance of an escalator (Figure 6).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified the teachings of Hamachi and Spitz with the teachings of Yamanouchi, since it is known in the art to utilize the monitoring camera in an image supervisory system so as to be able to monitor the operation condition of an escalator.

In Re claim 4, Yamanouchi further discloses the plurality of monitoring points contain an entrance of a moving walk (Figure 6).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Trifu, Mearns et al., Shiota et al., Gazdzinski, Kersting et al., Yamashita, Seida, Chiba and Wiesinger are further cited to show related teachings in the art.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kawing Chan whose telephone number is (571)270-3909. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Benson can be reached on 571-272-2227. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/K. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 2837

/Walter Benson/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2837